

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /138 W
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P R 041640Z AUG 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1824

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 6302

ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONSULTATIONS - GHANA

REF: (A) STATE 113492 (B) MTN GENEVA 3171

1. MTN DEL (GRAEF) HELD TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONSULTATIONS
AT REQUEST OF GHANIAN DEL (GLOVER-AKPEY, AND KONADU-YEBOAH)
AUGUST 3. GLOVER INDICATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED
INSTRUCTIONS FROM ACCRA WITH RESPECT TO THE US REQUEST
FOR GHANIAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO TP NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID
HIS AUTHORITIES " AS MUCH AS THEY SYMPATHIZE WITH OUR
REQUEST FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE THE CONCESSIONS
SUGGESTED". HE INDICATED THAT IF THE US HAD SOUGHT
SOMETHING MORE DIRECTLY RELATED TO GHANIAN DEVELOPMENT
INTERESTS THE REQUESTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTABLE.

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2. MTN DEL ATTEMPTED TO GET GLOVER TO ELABORATE ON HIS STATEMENT AND TO IDENTIFY AREAS THAT WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO GHANIANS. GLOVER WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT, STATING THAT IF HE MADE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS IT WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS A COMMITMENT TO MAKE SUCH CONCESSIONS. HE DID, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT CONCESSIONS WERE MORE POSSIBLE ON INTERMEDIATE AND CAPITAL GOODS NEEDED TO FURTHER GHANIAN'S PLANS TO FURTHER PROCESS LOCALLY PRODUCED RAW MATERIALS BEFORE EXPORT. AS EXAMPLES OF SUCH LOCALLY PRODUCED RAW MATERIALS HE CITED RICE, COCOA, COTTON AND TIMBER. MTN DEL NOTED HE WOULD REPORT GOG'S RESPONSE.

3. MTN DEL SUPPLEMENTED US REQUEST OF GHANA PER PARA 5 OF REFTEL (A). GLOVER EXPLAINED THAT LICENSING SYSTEM IN GHANA WAS LESS PRODUCT RESTRICTED THAN APPEARED THE CASE. HE INDICATED THAT THE LICENSING SYSTEM WAS IN PLACE BECAUSE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROBLEMS, AND THAT VERY OFTEN OPEN LICENSES OF A SPECIFIED VALUE WERE ISSUED TO IMPORTERS ALLOWING THE IMPORTER TO MAKE THE CHOICE OF THE PRODUCTS IT WOULD IMPORT UNDER THE LICENSE.

4. REQUESTED ACTION: REQUEST TROPICAL PRODUCTS TASK FORCE TO REVIEW ISAC AND ATAC ADVICE TO DETERMINE WHETHER US REQUEST SHOULD BE REVISED. CAN EMBASSY ACCRA ASSIST IN IDENTIFYING PRODUCTS AND BARRIERS WHOSE REDUCTION OR ELIMINATION MAY BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO GOG? CULBERT

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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